

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording medium, comprising:
a seed layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Ag, Au, Pt, Pd, Ru, and Cu; and
a magnetic recording layer formed on said seed layer, said magnetic recording layer having a plurality of laminated layers and a noble metal layer placed between said laminated layers, wherein said laminated layers ~~includes each include~~ a transition metal element layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Co, Ni, and Fe and a platinum group element layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Pt and Pd, said transition metal element layer and said platinum group element layer being in direct contact with one another;
wherein said noble metal layer contains at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Ag, Au, Ru, and Cu; and
wherein a relational expression $0 < Y/X \leq 1.0$ is satisfied, where X is thickness of said seed layer, and Y is a sum total of thickness of said noble metal layer in said magnetic recording layer.
2. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said magnetic recording layer has a plurality of said noble metal layers.
3. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 2, wherein said laminated layers and said noble metal layers are stacked alternately for a plurality of times.
4. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said laminated layers are formed by stacking said transition metal element layer and said platinum group element layer alternately for a plurality of times.

5. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of each of said noble metal layer is at most 1 nm.

6. (Original) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein the thickness X of said seed layer is at least 1 nm.

7.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A magnetic recording device, comprising:

a magnetic recording medium, comprising:

a seed layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Ag, Au, Pt, Pd, Ru, and Cu; and

a magnetic recording layer formed on said seed layer, said magnetic recording layer having a plurality of laminated layers and a noble metal layer placed between said laminated layers,

wherein said laminated layers ~~includes~~ each include a transition metal element layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Co, Ni, and Fe and a platinum group element layer containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Pt and Pd, said transition metal element layer and said platinum group element layer being in direct contact with one another;

wherein said noble metal layer contains at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Ag, Au, Ru, and Cu; and

wherein a relational expression $0 < Y/X \leq 1.0$ is satisfied, where X is thickness of said seed layer, and Y is a sum total of thickness of said noble metal layer in said magnetic recording layer; and

a magnetic head for writing and reading data onto and from said magnetic recording medium.

11. (Original) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein said magnetic recording layer has a plurality of said noble metal layers.

12. (Original) The magnetic recording device according to claim 11, wherein said laminated layers and said noble metal layers are stacked alternately for a plurality of times.

13. (Original) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein said laminated layers are formed by stacking said transition metal element layer and said platinum group element layer alternately for a plurality of times.

14. (Original) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein the thickness of each of said noble metal layer is at most 1 nm.

15. (Original) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein the thickness X of said seed layer is at least 1 nm.

16.-18. (Canceled)

19. (New) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said noble metal layer is in direct contact with the transition metal element layer.

20. (New) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein said noble metal layer is in direct contact with the transition metal element layer.

21. (New) The magnetic recording medium according to claim 1, wherein said noble metal layer placed between said laminated layers is in direct contact with the transition metal element layer on one side and with the platinum group element layer on an other side.

22. (New) The magnetic recording device according to claim 10, wherein said noble metal layer placed between said laminated layers is in direct contact with the transition metal element layer on one side and with the platinum group element layer on an other side.